IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, between the Title at line 2 and prenumbered line 4, please insert the following new paragraph as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is the U.S. counterpart of WO 2004/034138 and in turn claims priority to French Application No. 02/12520 filed on October 9, 2002, the entire contents of each of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please cancel the original Abstract at page 16, lines 1-14, in its entirety, and insert therefor the following substitute Abstract on a separate sheet as follows: